

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Community Project Funding Request for Fiscal Year 2024 in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Economic Development Cooperative, which will be led by East Houston Redevelopment is located at 7418 East Houston Rd. Houston, Texas 77028.

The funding would be used for a cooperative comprising East Houston Redevelopment as the lead, joined by Launch Point, SAFE Diversity, Young Invincible and Sunrise Shelter that will leverage their resources to address preservation and restoration of neglected art or installations, while the gulf between economic revitalization efforts homelessness.

To achieve their goals, the project lead joined by organizations with specific skills and resources in addressing homelessness, restoration and beautification, and economic development following a plan uses art as the focus for finding common purpose and effort to bring people back to community spaces for leisure, work, and play. Restoration of blighted structures and installation or repair of murals will be illuminated with solar-powered lighting, making them visible even at night as beacons where homeless persons can find safety and assistance.

The cooperative will maintain the restored and new art installations. The project will address living spaces for homeless persons by engaging youth and communities together to accomplish each step of the project to forge better understanding and collaboration among stakeholders seeking to reduce homelessness.

The project also aims to promote community engagement and education throughout the project. The GEHCRC and the artists will engage with the community to educate them on the importance of public art and the project's impact on the community's resilience. Additionally, the GEHCRC will host events and activities to promote community engagement and social cohesion.

Overall, the project's success would not only beautify the areas in select communities throughout Houston as well as serve as a source of community pride and promote social cohesion.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Economic Development Cooperative Project is a priority for several reasons. Firstly, the project aims to revitalize blighted areas of Houston where homelessness poses challenges to solutions that are lasting in places that have historically suffered from neglect and disinvestment.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by **42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2) and 5305(a)(4)**.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sheila Jackson Lee", written in a cursive style.

Sheila Jackson Lee